



The first step in learning to read is building *phonological awareness*. That means learning what sound each letter of the alphabet makes. Use these printable alphabet cards to practice saying letter sounds out loud. Have your child say each sound aloud as you cut them out. We recommend printing both pages of letter cards on thicker paper to make a longer-lasting set.

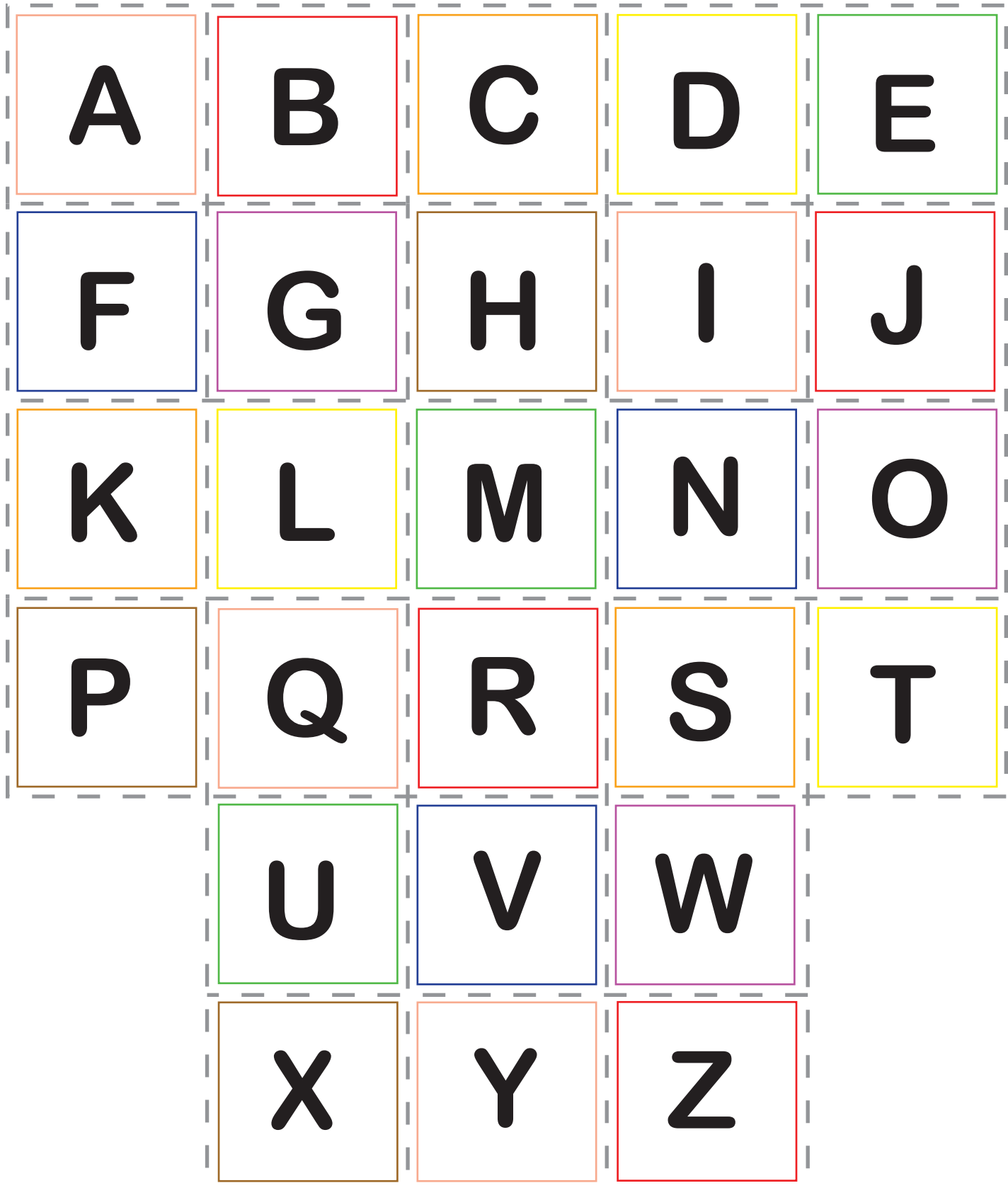
Page 2 of the letter cards includes the most commonly used blends and digraphs. Use them in the word building worksheets found on Education.com, or practice creating sight words of your own at home.

Long Sounds

It is important to make sure your child understands how to say letters with long sounds. F, L, M, N, R, S, V and Z all have long sounds. The same goes for many of the digraphs (ch, sh, th). When they are shortened, they tend to have an “uh” sound attached to the end. This is incorrect pronunciation. For example, an “F” should be pronounced “ffff”, not “fuh”.

✂ Letter Cards ✂

Cut out the letter cards below on the dotted line. We recommend printing these on thicker paper to make a longer-lasting set.



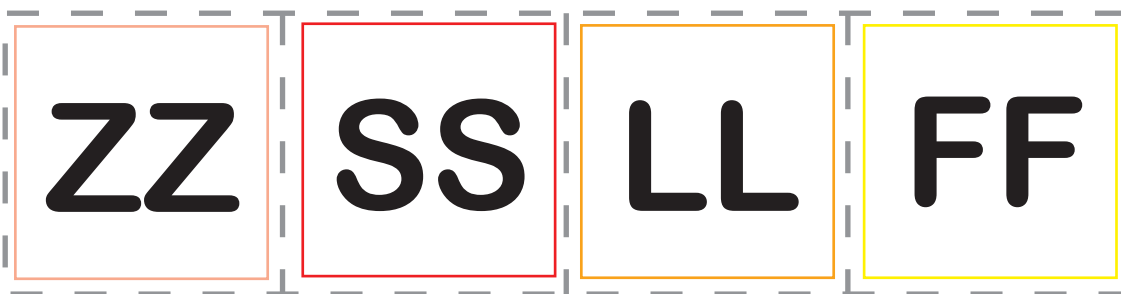
✂ Letter Cards ✂

Cut out the letter cards below on the dotted line. We recommend printing these on thicker paper to make a longer-lasting set.

Doublets

A doublet uses two of the same letter to spell one consonant phoneme. A phoneme is the smallest unit of sound in speech.

Examples: pizza, class, tall, off



Digraphs

A digraph is a two- (di-) letter combination that stands for one phoneme; neither letter acts alone to represent the sound.

Examples: the, check, sing, quack

